

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph 47, starting at line 20 on page 10, with the following paragraph:

The gene encoding lysostaphin is naturally found on a large plasmid in *S. simulans*, and encodes a preproenzyme that is processed extracellularly to a mature form, which is active (FIG. 1). Several allelic variations of this gene have been identified that are apparently found in nature (Heinrich et al., supra, (SEQ ID NO: [[5]] 9) (FIG. 13 15A); Recsei et al., supra, (SEQ ID NO: 1) (FIG. 11); Thumm and Gotz et al., supra, (SEQ ID NO: [[6]] 10) (FIG. [[14]] 16); U.S. Pat. No. 4,931,390). The sequence of mature lysostaphin identified by Heinrich, (et al., supra) differs from the sequence identified by Recsei, (et al. supra) by one amino acid, whereas preprolysostaphin has multiple differences. Furthermore, the preprolysostaphin sequence identified by Thumm and Gotz et al., (supra) differs from the preprolysostaphin sequence identified by both Recsei (et al., supra) and Heinrich (et al., supra). According to Thumm and Gotz (et al., supra), preprolysostaphin is 493 amino acids having a signal peptide of 36 amino acids, a propeptide of 211 amino acids and a mature lysostaphin protein of 246 amino acids.